

ON THE AIR

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# A Delayed Report From TV's 'Lee'

By BERNIE HARRISON

Star-TV Critic

It's a rare offering in the theater these days that doesn't include in its cast an actor of some TV repute. The Shubert playbill for the new comedy, "This Is Goggle," credits James Daly with over 400 TV performances.

I'll buy that, too. 400 easy. And I'll wager that I've seen Daly in at least 200 of them, ranging from his cloak-and-dagger escapades for Sheldon Reynolds' "Foreign Intrigue" to his persuasive Robert E. Lee in Omnibus' "Lee at Gettysburg."

Overlooking some of the historical inaccuracies in the controversial Omnibus production, Daly feels that Alvin Sapinsley's literate script didn't get the attention it merited. He's forthright about those that missed, as well, including the next-to-last Studio One in New York show.

The Lee role, he says, resulted in one of the greatest indirect compliments he's received yet—from a relative who engaged him in a heated discussion of the drama.

"Like most people who watch

TV," he laughed, "she had missed the credits and didn't know that I played Lee."

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A week or so after the show, on his way to New York from Washington (where his brother, an FBI agent, had bought him a car), he took his first look at the Gettysburg battleground.

The guide told him that there'd been a play on TV about the battle. "Did you see it?"

"No," said Daly, which was literally true, as he was in it and therefore didn't "see" it. "What did you think of it?"

"Well," the guide said, "I hear there were some mistakes. But it sure boomed business here!"

Jim's mother by the way, lives in Alexandria and works for the CIA. He's been staying with her during the Shubert engagement.

Other stars of the theater scene here with lengthy TV credits include Daly's costar, Kim Hunter (who was on Playhouse 90 the other Thursday); the National's Celeste Holm, who had her own series a season or two ago and Rosemary

Harris, who was in the Hall of Fame's "Twelfth Night."

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## Scoreboard:

Kraft's "Run, Joe, Run" (Wednesday, WRC—4) was a strange mish-mash; the hero's fugitive status was never clearly stated. Anyhow, a dope ring was after him and he hopped a train out of town and landed in a rail-side, all-night beanery operated by a mooning blond, played by Jan Sterling. Alex Nicol's wardrobe was nattier than his delivery and the play's principal attraction was in some minor performances and mood-evoking sets.

## On the Run:

The American Legion's annual "For God and Country" program will be televised "live" from Legion headquarters here tomorrow night (8 to 8:30 o'clock) via the facilities of WMAL-TV.

Yesterday's fishiest visitor was a latter-day mermaid—22-year-old Claudette Woodyard, representing "Sea Hunt,"

the new Lloyd Bridges series which premieres tonight (10:30 o'clock, WMAL—7). . . . Claudette, who looks mighty pretty even in one of those underwater rubber suits, left this land-lubber a pair of swim fins, an aqua lung apparatus and a mask.

ABC's "Open Hearing" offered a pro-and-con discussion on pay-TV recently and CBS will follow suit Sunday. . . . Taking part in the network program Sunday (2:30 to 3 o'clock) will be CBS's Richard Salant and Bob Hall, a director of Skiatron. . . . WTOP—9 is trying to clear time here.

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